



Doesn't this take the Cake! — see Regional Group Ramblings

BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

COLLECTIONS

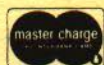
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THE COHEN COLLECTION

One of the world's most valuable collections of Canadian stamps and covers is to be sold by Auction.

Stanley Cohen, a fellow of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain and the owner of the most prestigious collection of 19th century Canadian stamps, is retiring.

"I began collecting stamps as a child, when I became captivated with the 50 cent stamp of the 1928/9 "Scroll" issue depicting the sailing schooner "Bluenose" says Cohen. He still believes it to be the most beautifully engraved stamp ever issued within the British Commonwealth.

In addition to being a collector, Mr. Cohen is a recognized philatelic authority. During the sixties he worked with American expert Horace Harrison. Together they classified the 1868 Dominion issue of Large cents. Their classifications are now referred to in handbooks and catalogues as "C & H Numbers" (Cohen and Harrison).

Like all great collections, Mr. Cohen's is a compilation of many famous Canadian collections, as well as his own, portions of which won medals at Capex '78 held in Toronto.

Included in the collection for auction will be the complete Banfield collection of 1859 10 cent Prince Consorts, with many thousands of fine and very rare covers, stamps, including mint and used single copies and rare proofs; medal winner at the London 1960 International. Also included are both of the collections of the late Dr. Day and E.A. Smythies, co-authors of the book "Canadian Fancy Cancellations".

Because of the size of the collection, it is being dispersed at two auction sales in England and Canada. Cavendish Philatelics of Derby will hold the first sale in England on October 18, 1986. In Canada the stamps will be auctioned by Jim A. Hennok Limited, in the Spring of 1987.

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BNA TOPICS



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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BNA TOPICS

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THE EDITOR'S PAGE

by Mike Street

INTODAY'S HOBBY, IS THE CART BEING PLACED BEFORE THE HORSE?

by Ken Wood
Editor Emeritus
Stamp Collector

If our hobby has a problem today it is that many collectors are putting the philatelic cart before the postal horse. Simply, this refers to the blind collecting of much of the world's new-stamp outpouring, an outpouring that is a great threat to the future health of stamp collecting.

This lack of discrimination is causing such philatelic souvenir stuff to be as highly regarded as is material whose prime reasons for being are the requirements of a postal system.

And, of course, this is why it continues to proliferate — if it were not being bought in sufficient quantities, it would not continue to appear in ever-increasing numbers at ever-escalating prices.

When I began to collect stamps they were, for the most part, issued in modest quantities to match postal rates, and if they were commemoratives, they marked important events for which a special postage stamp was justified. There were enough to maintain interest, but not so many as to be a financial burden on the collector.

Today, even the more responsible postal administrations openly admit that the money raised from philatelic sales of new stamps is a major factor in their creation.

As for the less-responsible entities — postal requirements have ceased to play any part, and it is a case of the more the merrier. Some have even discovered that if they can create a number of pseudo-postal administrations within their territory, the take can be multiplied. A real estate speculator has nothing on these boys when it comes to subdividing!

Thus, if the future of the hobby is to be preserved then it seems that the postal horse must once again be placed in a proper position to haul the philatelic cart.

A return to basic principles would be a good beginning, and that means the collection of stamps issued to prepay mail charges.

It might appear to be a difficult task to sift the postal wheat from the philatelic chaff, but the most obvious rip-offs can easily be avoided if only we can convince ourselves that completion need not require the purchase of every stamp-like object issued by a country. Then we would be well on the way to ridding our hobby of the greatest danger it faces — death by drowning in a sea of expensive souvenirs.

There is a helpful trend that I have noticed in what seems to be a growing distinction between stamps issued for postal use in a country and those created primarily to raise hard currency overseas — and that usually means us, folks.

Some countries appear to be issuing a few commemoratives in modest denominations to serve actual postal needs and honoring people, events, and anniversaries of local significance. These seem to be distinct from other, more gaudy issues in much higher denominations and in numerous variations that appear to be aimed at raising cold cash from philatelic sales.

This helps to identify philately's problem and if we are smart enough to participate in the hobby, we are surely smart enough to grab at the solution it offers with all the enthusiasm of a drowning philatelist, because that's exactly what we are.

New collectors usually come into the hobby through the door marked "new stamps," and if they realize at that early stage that they are being ripped off, they will soon be lost to philately.

The only effective way to preserve the coming generation of collectors and thus the hobby's future health is to somehow guide them through this maze of colorful stamp-like stuff so that they can discover the sunny uplands of philately that lie beyond. That requires the help of all of us.

(Our thanks to Ken Wood and Stamp Collector for permission to reprint this thoughtful commentary — Ed.)



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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by E.A. Harris



It is indeed a pleasure to write this, my first column as President of your Society. I am experiencing a little difficulty in concentrating on the subject as all around me preparations for Christmas are in high gear and I personally still have presents to buy and presents to wrap. But let's get down to discussing our Society.

Many members have said to me that BNAPS is changing — and it is. The question is will the change be for the better or for the worse. I think the answer has to be — for the better. With so many highly intelligent and highly motivated members serving as officials and department heads in the Society, it is difficult for me to see how we can fail to overcome the problems which from time to time present themselves. We have in the past had difficulties, in one way or another, with almost every aspect of the Society and through diligence and perseverance the problems have been solved, or we have adapted to the change. Some Society departments are operating better now than they have ever done, and are supplying top-notch services to the members.

One aspect of Society affairs which is receiving some attention at the moment, is the matter of exhibiting and judging. Not all BNAPS members really care about exhibiting and judging, but in our opinion the outcome will affect the Society greatly. Judging is a thankless job and we are fortunate indeed to have members

who willingly put themselves through this ordeal year after year. It is impossible to be all-knowing about every subject, so consequently exhibitors must be tolerant.

I am sure most of you know that a tug-of-war exists between the classic method of collecting and exhibiting and the 'new wave' of sideline or specialized collections. How is it possible to judge these against one another? The classic collection with its wealth of rarities can be a joy to behold. But what of the sideline collection with several discoveries? Some of these can be rarer than the 12 Penny. New collectors naturally start with the more modern era and never hope to own classics. They work in their field for years and finally exhibit, expecting to be appropriately rewarded for their efforts. Some method must be found to recognize the work which has gone into these collections.

This is but one of the questions under discussion and consideration within your Society. Many more are under review and all will receive attention as we move on. Feedback to your officers is essential. If you have an opinion about something the Society is doing or should be doing, or if you have an idea which will improve services to the members, please let us hear from you. If you do not wish to write to a Letter to the Editor, you can always write to me personally to air your views and have your opinion heard.

Best wishes to you all for the New Year.

LETTERS

OKANAGON POST OFFICE

I would like to add a few points to Harry W.

Lussey's article in the September/October BNA TOPICS on the 8¢ Registration stamp. They con-

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cern one of the covers illustrated.

Okanagan was the first post office in the Okanagan Valley in B.C. It was not a small town; the post office was located at the O'Keefe Ranch. Today this is the O'Keefe Historic Ranch, a historical museum farm with store, blacksmith shop, church and objects related to the era.

Cornelius O'Keefe and Thomas Greenhow stopped off at the head of Okanagan Lake to fatten the cattle they were driving from Oregon to Barkerville to sell to gold miners. They realized it would be better to stay in the area and farm, and they established ranches in this area. Both are buried in the cemetery near the church at the O'Keefe Historic Ranch.

Cornelius O'Keefe was the first postmaster at Okanagan. The cover illustrated in the article is addressed to one of Thomas Greenhow's relatives in England.

It does seem highly unlikely that such a small post office, serving a few scattered ranchers, would have the 8¢ Registration stamp in their stock of supplies.

Mev Wells
Vernon, B.C.

MINIATURE HANDSTAMPS

To the list of miniature rubber handstamps presented by Bruce D. Murduck in the Sept-Oct issue of *TOPICS*, as well as that by J.L. Purcell in 1977, Vol. 34, No. 1, page 41, may I add the following:

- Chicoutimi/P.Q., 15 III 1980, 19mm, green
- Quebec/P.Q., 30 III 1978, 18mm, black
- Quebec P.Q./FWD 1, 18 V 1976, 25mm, black
- Quebec P.Q./FWD 3, 20 VIII 1973, 19.5mm, black (on a cover from Lesotho)
- Quebec P.Q./FWD 4, 10 X 1979, 18mm, black (backstamped same date)
- Montreal / R-1, 7 XII 1959, 20mm, red (backstamp)
- Montreal / R-2, 10 X 1958, 20mm, light purple (backstamp)
- Montreal / R-5, 11 V 1959, 20mm, deep purple (backstamp)
- Montreal / R-12, 7 IV, 1960, 20mm, black (backstamp)
- Levis/Equipe 1, 9 VII, 1982, 20mm, light purple (special delivery cover)

Lawrence A. Walker
Montreal

UNOFFICIAL PRECANCELS

Brampton is not the only Post Office to unoffi-

MAJESTY'S SERVICE.



cially precancel stamps (*The Brampton Provisional Precancel*, May-June 1986), nor is this a modern occurrence. Before the turn of the century the Ottawa Post Office did the same thing. The Small Queen shown is on a cover from the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying of the Dominion of Canada to the Free Library, Wandsworth, London County, England. Endorsed 'MARKED COPY', it probably carried some government report.

I have seen a similar item from St. Catharines in the 1920s, and have a 2¢ Queen Elizabeth with a Cobden (Ontario) roller which was affixed to the mailer of *Popular Stamps Magazine* in the '50s.

So much for the Post Office's 'explicit' regulations.

Harry W. Lussey
Atlantis, FL

Editor's Note: St. Catharines is also known to have used the 'Barrel' canceller to 'precancel' multiples of the 10¢ Postage Due stamp during the 1950s.

The Brampton Provisional Precancel, by Mr. Bradbury is most interesting. I have always wondered about a pair of Small Queen covers I have with the 'London, Ont. 2' roller used as a precancel. These prove that even large centers used this type of precancel. What intrigues me especially is that one of the pair is addressed to the Postmaster at Plumweseed, New Brunswick, apparently on Post Office business.

Dr. J. Frank
Johannesburg, S.A.

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NOTES

BNAPSers WIN AWARDS, HONORS

Congratulations are in order for many members of BNAPS who won exhibiting awards or were honored for their contributions to the hobby.

Susan McDonald received the John N. Luff Award, the highest recognition given by the American philatelic Society. **Law Ludlow** was elected a Fellow of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. **Dick Mallott** and **Bill Robinson** were named Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

On the exhibiting scene, **Carl-Heinz Moisel** of West Germany won a Vermeil at PHILAMAINZ for his 'Canada - The Stamps and Covers of the Nineteenth Century'. Carl plans to enter his exhibit in the 1987 National show at Stuttgart. At STOCKHOLMIA, **Chris McGregor** won a Large Vermeil, while **Dave Dixon** and **Alan Selby** received Vermeils. At Boston's Philatelic Show '86, **Hank Lubke's** 'The 4-Ring Cancels of Early Canada' took the Grand Award and the APS pre-1900 medal. Closing out the year, **Phillip Stager's** Booklets won a Gold and the BNAPS award at VAPEX.

NEW CHAIRMAN FOR SMALL QUEENS STUDY GROUP

BNAPS' Study Group Coordinator **John Burnett** has announced that **Bill Burden** of Truro, NS is the new Chairman and Editor of the Small Queens Study Group. He succeeds retiring chairman **Don Fraser** of Winnipeg who received a gift in recognition of his long service to the group at the 1986 Annual General Meeting in Dearborn.

Bill is a high school science teacher well known to Small Queen and Re-entry enthusiasts for his expertise in philatelic photography. In 1986 he also became a dealer when he purchased Mac's Stamps, owned by another BNAPSer, the late **M.T. MacInnes** who was a stalwart of philately in the Truro area for many years.

Members wishing to contact Bill can reach him at P.O. Box 152, Truro, NS B2N 5C1.

WEBB'S STATIONERY CATALOGUE CHANGES HANDS

In late August the rights to **Jim Webb's** *Canada & Newfoundland Postal Stationery Catalogue* were sold to **Earle Covert** and **Bill**

Walton. Jim published the first edition of the catalogue in 1971, and it quickly became the primary stationery reference for BNA collectors and dealers. Its appearance marked the beginning of a revival in interest in BNA postal stationery. Revised editions in 1974, 1978 and 1983, were each larger and more complete than its predecessor. The new owners and editors are well known to members of BNAPS.

The new owners have begun work on the fifth edition of the catalogue, with the intention of having it available at CAPEX '87. Members are encouraged to contact them concerning unlisted items. A few structural changes will be phased in over the next few editions. The biggest single change promised for the 1987 edition is that the private order post cards will be separated from the regularly issued cards. The catalogue numbers for cards in both categories (with very few exceptions) will, however, remain unchanged. **Bill** and **Earle** hope to expand the use of illustrations, including illustrations of die types.

We extend our best wishes to the new owners of *Webb's*. At the same time, we take this opportunity to thank **Jim Webb** for his time and effort over the last fifteen years. He not only compiled and wrote the catalogue, he also did the typesetting and printing. It was a difficult task, and it was done well.

Robert Lemire

CAPEX INFORMATION BROCHURE AVAILABLE

As plans proceed for the staging of the major North American philatelic event of 1987, an information brochure that lists both downtown hotels adjacent to the Convention Centre and where to get information about budget accommodation has been prepared.

Cultural and family attractions in the Metropolitan Toronto area are described, and a selection of excellent restaurants is listed.

The World International Philatelic Exhibition will open on June 13, and will run for nine days.

The Visitors Information Brochure will be mailed to all Beaver Club subscribers and accepted exhibitors, or can be obtained by writing to: CAPEX '87

P.O. Box 204, Station Q
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Canada M4T 2M1

CAPEX SHEET TO INCLUDE TORONTO'S FIRST POST OFFICE

Members will recall that a campaign to get a stamp issued for the 150th Anniversary of Toronto's First Post Office was unsuccessful. It appears that someone was listening, however. On February 16 Canada Post will issue a stamp featuring the building. The first in a series on old post offices, the Toronto stamp will be joined on June 12 by three others, whose designs will show post offices at Nelson-Miramichi, NB, Saint-Ours, Quebec and Battleford, Saskatchewan. Also on June 12, the four stamps will be issued in a special souvenir sheet for CAPEX '87, which opens the next day in Toronto.



UNITRADE MARKETS NEW WATERMARK DETECTOR

Unitrade Associates of Toronto are now marketing the new Morley-Bright 'Roll-a-Tector', a revolutionary way to determine watermarks on stamps, whether on- or off-cover. The detector consists of a colored paste encased in a soft clear-plastic container or sachet. The stamp is placed between the sachet and an underlying hard plastic or glass surface. The paste is then rolled inside the sachet. Gradually, the watermark impression appears in the paste. The detector retails for \$25.95CDN. A demonstration at STAMP MARKETPLACE in November was most impressive.

NOTICE RE 1987 DUES

Please note that reminder notices are being mailed to all members who have not paid their 1987 membership dues.

This will be the last issue of TOPICS mailed if dues remain unpaid.

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REGIONAL GROUP RAMBLINGS

by Jim Goben

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MID-ATLANTIC: G.H. Davis, Box 7, Fawn Dr., Lebanon, NJ 08833

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DETROIT-WINDSOR: Mike Barie, P.O. Box 1445, Detroit, MI 48231

MANITOBA-NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO: Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, MB, R0E 1L0

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST: Brian Plain, 230 Robson Rd. W., Kelowna, BC V1X 3C8

I hope that all good BNApsers found something special in their Christmas stockings. Thanks to a friendly dealer I met at Dearborn I was able to find a few nice things in mine.

DOUBLE SURPRISE FOR LEHR

The **Prairie Beavers**, as many of their guest speakers have discovered, dish out loads of Texas hospitality. Jim Lehr was the latest visitor to benefit from this when he travelled from Delaware to College Station for the Texas group's October 11 meeting. Jim's topic was 'So You Want To Write A Book', and he brought with him the completed manuscript of his new book on Prince Edward Island. The book is dedicated to Ed Richardson, OTB, the Chairman Emeritus of the **Prairie Beavers**.

The surprise of the day came when Jim was presented with a cake carrying the design of the PEI 4d stamp. This gem of cake-decorating art was the handiwork of Shirley Drozd, wife of Beaver Vic Drozd. Present at the meeting were members from Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. Howard Twichell is the Chairman, Martin Shelton is Treasurer and Vic Willson is Editor of the *Beaver Chatter*, the chapter newsletter. Rev. Woody Poore took the photo.

The **Detroit-Windsor** group are enjoying a well-deserved rest after their efforts in putting on the convention, and basking in the praise which is still coming in from all corners of the society. Convention Chairman Chuck Firby, Treasurer Jerry Jarnick, and their cohorts put more icing on Jim Lehr's cake when they closed the '86 convention's books by sending Jim a cheque for \$1670US as seed money for the '87 convention in Charlottetown. When last heard from, Lehr was floating high above Cloud 9 sing-



ing the praises of people who live along or near the St. Clair River.

ELSEWHERE IN BNApsLAND

There are some fine programs being given at the regional group meetings. At the November meeting of the **Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario** group, Dave Whiteley presented 'Trans-Atlantic Covers of the Period 1820-1900.' A good idea used by this group is the old 'show and tell'. Bring along an item to show and discuss.

Cliff Guile presented 'Square Circle Cancel-

lations of Canada' at the November meeting of the **Golden Horseshoe** group. This group had a membership information and recruitment booth at PHILEX Canada. Another good way to promote your group. The newsletter gives the call for people to write articles, so if you can, send them one.

There is a new Secretary of the **Mid-Atlantic** group. Contact G.H. Davis at Box 7, Fawn Drive, Lebanon, New Jersey 08833. If you are in driving distance, I am sure this group will welcome you.

Our convention was such a success that the **Northern California** group spent much of their last meeting discussing BNAP's major event of the year. Five members from this group attended and were impressed with the high quality of the exhibits and rightly so.

The **Pacific Northwest** group is seeking ideas for a new name. If you have an idea send

it in. In October a major discussion of the inequity and inconsistency in the current policy of pricing Canadian stamps consumed a major portion of the meeting. A topic that is near and dear to us all. Gordon Davis made an excellent presentation on the subject and it was included in the newsletter. The next meeting will be on March 7, 1987 at the Everett Pacific Hotel, Everett, Washington. A morning seminar will feature Bill Robinson and 'Specialties on the Edward/Tercentenary Issues'. The banquet speaker will be Captain John T. Howell, speaking on the historic circumnavigating of North America through the Northwest Passage in 1985. Captain Howell was the 'Skipper' of the USCG Cutter *Polar Sea* on the voyage. Reservations can be made through Lew Ludlow (See RPO Cowcatcher for address).

Be sure to get your information to me before March 15 for the May/June issue, and May 15 for July/August.

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CALENDAR

CALENDAR lists exhibitions and bourses with significant BNA content, and BNAPS Regional Group functions. Information/prospectus must reach the Editor at least 3 months in advance.

1987

- FEBRUARY 14, BURLINGTON, ONTARIO** — Burlington Stamp Club show and bourse. Appleby Mall, Appleby Line & New St. Information: Frank Haller, P.O. Box 487, Stn. A, Burlington, ON L7R 3Y3
- MARCH 14, OAKVILLE, ONTARIO** — **OAKPEX '87**, Oakville Stamp Club show and bourse. River Oaks Recreation Centre, 2400 Sixth Line. Information: P.O. Box 524, Oakville, ON L6J 5B4
- MARCH 20-22, EDMONTON, ALBERTA** — **Spring Show '87**, Edmonton Stamp Club show and bourse. Terrace Inn Hotel. Information: Floyd McNey, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6
- APRIL 10-12, TORONTO, ONTARIO** — **STAMPEX**, pre-CAPEX National level show and bourse. Sheraton Centre. Information: M. Madesker, 157 Clifton Ave., Downsview, ON M3H 4L6
- MAY 8-10 WINNIPEG, MANITOBA** — **STAMP SHOW '87**, Winnipeg Philatelic Society show and bourse. Marlborough Inn. Information: P.O. Box 1425, Winnipeg MI R3C 2Z1
- MAY 15-17, MONTREAL, QUEBEC** — **EXUP XVI**. The 54th anniversary exhibition and bourse of the Union Philatélique de Montréal. Centre Saint Mathieu, 7110 8th Ave. Information: EXUP XVI, 72 De Montbrun, Boucherville, Quebec J4B 4T9.
- MAY 22-24, SPOKANE, WASHINGTON** — **PIPEX '87**, Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs show and bourse. RPSC and APS accredited, National level. Sheraton-Spokane Hotel. Information: PIPEX '87, P.O. box 1502, Spokane, WA 99210.
- JUNE 13-21, TORONTO, ONTARIO** — **CAPEX '87**, FIP sanctioned International Exhibition. Information: CAPEX '87, P.O. Box 204, Stn. Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2M1.
- SEPTEMBER 23-26, LICHFIELD, ENGLAND** — the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain's annual convention. Information: Brian Stalker, Secretary, 3 Rutherford Way, Tonbridge, Kent, England TN10 4RH
- OCTOBER 16-25, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK** — **HAFNIA '87**, FIP sanctioned International Exhibition. Canadian Commissioner: R.K. Malott, 16 Harwick Cres., Nepean, ON K2H 6R1


BNAPEX '87

- CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, September 17-19**, BNAPS' Annual Convention. Rodd's Royalty Inn. Chairman: James C. Lehr, 2918 Cheshire Rd., Wilmington, DE USA 19810
- JUNE 1-12, HELSINKI, FINLAND - FINLANDIA '88**. FIP sanctioned International Exhibition. Canadian Commissioner: David Dixon, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9.

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BNAPS - CSDA - RPSC

COLOUR IS THE NAME OF THE COVER GAME

by Jon Rose

A few years ago, a wise old Eastern stamp dealer told me that I should, when buying covers, look for 'colour', and the rest would take care of itself. "Colour," he said, "That's the name of the game."

His point is well taken. Whether we are talking about very valuable covers, or scarce covers, or quite common ones, the colourful appearance of the item is a big factor in determining its eye appeal, comparative worth, and value to the page in your album or exhibit.

Colour is a somewhat nebulous term, even though its meaning may seem apparent to some collectors. Colour could mean a colourful combination of stamps, even stamps of different countries (mixed frankings); colour could be provided by a series of interesting postmarks, or by a combination of stamps and postal markings.

The short-paid cover to Barbados in Figure 1 is a good example of mixed franking. The

proper rate was 10¢ per ¼ oz, so the envelope probably weighed between ¼ and ½ oz. It's a safe bet that every time he looks at it, the present owner blesses the Barbadian postal official who put the ten 1d postage dues on the front of the envelope.

Colour may also stem from private or quasi-official markings. In the nineteenth century many firms used round or oval dated company hand-stamps, often in blue, sometimes in red or purple. Other items which lend colour are things like advertisements, or corner cards as some are called; overall illustrations such as Boer War patriotic and the fancy peace propaganda allegories; or even fancy manuscript notations. A Windsor duplex is not difficult to find, but imagine how the page would look with the patriotic postcard shown in Figure 2.

Sometimes the colour is on the back of the cover, in the form of a backstamp or illustration





or even a wax seal or metallic sealing device. Figure 3 is an example of several of the points discussed here. The face of the cover, with the beautifully engraved and colourful stamps of St. Pierre & Miquelon, is made even more attractive

by the fact that the letter was registered. The Barrel cancel collector in whose collection this cover resides got an added bonus because the Halifax Barrel is accompanied by a seldom-seen boxed NORTH SYDNEY Postal Terminal Office/



NORTH SYDNEY, N.S. transit mark. There are those who say that you should not open up a cover, but here's an example of what can happen if you do.

Covers with some stamps are fairly uncommon. When found, they indicate that the sender knew what he was doing by using the stamps, creating a colourful and scarce little number for posterity.

This is another good point. When you send letters, are you using choice, colourful combinations of stamps to make up the proper rate and create such a philatelic plum for posterity?

Almost anyone can afford to buy 100-year-old covers with nice combinations, which lend colour to a classic or neo-classic cover collection. Higher rate Small Queen covers, such as

registered letters, are certainly available, affordable and colourful. It could even be said that the more modern your collecting interest is, the more important colour becomes.

There are a few items which need only a little bit of colour to make them spectacular. The Twelve Penny Black on a cover is enough to make eyes pop. (If one or more coloured cancellations are present on a 12d Black cover, the owner is doubly blessed.) An Inverted Seaway will have the same effect. With a little care in looking and buying, however, even inexpensive covers can light up a page.

(This article originally appeared in *Stamp Collector*. It has been adapted to suit a BNA audience and is reprinted with permission.)

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MORE SKETCHES of BNAPSers

By Dr. R.V.C. Carr

Sketch 214

MICHAEL MADESKER

I've been looking forward to doing a sketch of Mike Madesker for a long time. Having worked with him at many exhibitions, I've come to admire this dynamo — philatelist. I especially liked the job that he did as chairman of the jury at the National Exhibition at Montreal in 1984 and, as a member of the jury, found him most knowledgeable and easy to get along with. Mike is married, with three children (and a cat), all living in the Toronto area. Of northeastern European descent, he is fluent in many languages.

A child collector guided by his grandfather, he has been at it ever since, but not too seriously as you can see by the cartoon of himself. His collecting habits are most varied — Canadian booklets, communication material, and parcel posts, plus the Holy Land.

Mike belongs not only to BNAPS, but to the RPSC, RPLS, and the APS. He was one of the founders of the Canadian Association of Israel Philately and has been the one Canadian to be



President of the Society of Israel Philatelists. For sixteen years, he ran the youth program for the Royal and organized the first International Youth Exhibition held in Canada in 1982. In 1973 Mike and Gus Snels organized STAMPEX and they have run this successful Toronto venture ever since, adding a fall show — Stamp Marketplace — in 1979. Mike judges, is on the FIP Youth Commission, and is a director of the RPSC.

Now, when are we going to get him involved in BNAPS? Would so like to see him at our convention — how about it, Mike? STOP THE PRESS! Just as this sketch was going to press I received the news that Mike has been named the full time Show Manager of CAPEX '87, the International show next June in Toronto. Good luck, Mike. See you at CAPEX!



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BNAPEX '87

DISCOVER AN ISLAND

by Hilary Prince

Prince Edward Island, Canada's smallest province, population 122,000, is a unique vacation paradise offering an array of entertainments, activities and amusements so varied that many visitors return, year after year, to become part of the Island's lively community.

The first visitors, more than 2000 years ago, were the Micmac Indians who named the Island "Abegweit" — "(land)" — cradled on the waves." Crossing the Northumberland Strait from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to forage for food, they found fragrant wild strawberries, and blueberries, brook and sea-trout, oysters, clams, mussels, lobsters, other seafoods and small game.

Micmac legend tells how the Great Spirit created the Island from red clay, naming it "Minegoo" — the most beautiful place on earth. Visitors agree this crescent-shaped Island, resting on the blue waters of the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence is indeed a bit of heaven on earth.

The earth remains astonishingly red, just as the Great Spirit created it, yielding bumper crops of world-famous P.E.I. potatoes, cultivated vegetables, fruits and berries. And today's visitors still enjoy the same kinds of succulent wild berries and seafood that first nourished the Micmacs so long ago. Wild berries still grow in profusion, free for the picking, but now the added thrill of gathering juicy, ripe strawberries from cultivated fields is an activity few visitors care to miss.

In the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence along the North Shore, and in the Northumberland Strait separating the Island from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, deep sea fish as well as lobster and other shellfish are plentiful. If bluefin tuna fishing appeals to you, you'll be happy to learn that North Lake is the "tuna capital of the world." If fishing for cod, hake or mackerel, from the deck of an Island-built, 45-footer sounds interesting, then a couple of hours of fun (and invigorating!) deep sea fishing is for you. If you are a confirmed landlubber, then you can purchase fresh seafoods from fishermen at almost any harbour on Prince Edward Island, or from any of the approximately thirty-six seafood outlets.

If you enjoy good food and eating out, Prince Edward Island will appeal to you. The famous

lobster suppers with all the home-made trimmings are available in many church and community halls, and in most Island restaurants. Fresh, wholesome fare is the order of the day. The Island has a culinary institute that graduates fully qualified chefs, but many Islanders, especially the women accustomed to feeding hungry farmers and fishermen, are imaginative and accomplished cooks.

If your idea of paradise is miles of clean red or white sand, warm water and only wind and sea birds for company, Prince Edward Island has it all with hundreds of miles of clean, sandy beaches, secret coves, rolling sand dunes, and hidden harbors. There are beaches to suit every taste, some supervised and more populated than others with facilities to keep visitors coming back for a day, a week, or longer. Organized activities are available in the National Park, a 40 kilometre



Anne of Green Gables is the fictional story of a red-haired orphan girl with an infectious smile and non-stop conversation. Anne Shirley, her 'real' name, lived in the imaginary Prince Edward Island community of Avonlea. With her tireless zeal for life, she rejoiced at "the whole big dear world." Every summer for 20 years, the irresistible charm of "Anne" has delighted theatre-goers of all ages at the Charlottetown Festival Theatre. (P.E.I. Tourism/Tourism Canada Photo)



Waiting for the season to start on Prince Edward Island: the advance of the lobster season is signalled by well-stocked bait sheds, freshly painted boats and lobster traps piled high. This scene is duplicated at fishing harbours through coastal Prince Edward Island. The inshore fishery is the third largest industry on Prince Edward Island (next to Agriculture and Tourism). Succulent lobster and other seafood like Malpeque oysters thrive in the warm waters off the coast of this Canadian Province and have earned "the island" a reputation for the fine seafood around the world. (P.E.I. Canada, Tourism/Camera Art Photo.)

stretch of beach and hiking trails along the North Shore. Many of the dozens of provincial and private parks offer similar activities. Sand-sculpture contests, outdoor theatre, day-long canoe trips, clamdigging, windsurfing, and beach walks with Park naturalists helping visitors discover the beauty, the excitement, and the natural history of 'the island.'

Three scenic drives, designed to introduce travellers to points of interest, are colour-coded with highway signage. The Lady Slipper, Blue Heron and the Kings Byway are respectively 288, 190, and 375 kilometres in length. Shutter-bugs, artists and sightseers will be delighted by a colorful panorama of seascapes and landscapes. Architecture ranges from the 18th century to many new and exciting solar-heated homes that grace the Island today. There is plenty for those who wish to record their visit on film or canvas.

Stopping frequently to sample Island life is irresistible. For example, visitors will be tempted to charter a schooner if they visit the village of Victoria. After a cruise on the bay they will be drawn to the lively summer theatre where refreshments are served outdoors at intermission. An hour working at your own brass-rubbing in the

historic community of Georgetown is time well spent. The Acadian community in the westernmost Prince County offers a cultural and gastronomic feast visitors will relish. If you speak French — **tant mieux!** So much the better!

Did you ever see Irish moss being harvested from the sea with horse and cart? Well, you can witness this spectacle at the shore in Minimegash or Sea Cow Pond. Scenes such as this are difficult to bypass. When you stop the harvesters will tell you (if time permits) that the brown-to-purple color seaweed they are gathering will yield carrageenan, an extract that is used in such products as toothpaste, ice cream and cosmetics.

You will also want to enjoy the plowing matches at the annual Dundas Plowing Match and Agricultural Fair, where the range of activities include, of course, championship plowing matches, highland dancing, fiddle-playing contests and horse show.

Historic sites, museum and handcraft shops are popular stops too throughout Prince Edward Island.

The Island is a kaleidoscope of colour. Brilliant red earth, vistas of green fields frosted white

with daisies, masses of wild lupins, pink, purple and blue, border highways free of bumper-to-bumper traffic. Bicycle touring and hiking are pleasant and easy too.

The majority of Prince Edward Island is rural; however, there are two major centres — the capital city Charlottetown (population approximately 30,000) and the smaller, no less interesting town of Summerside (population 10,000). Several small communities offer facilities similar to those found in the larger areas, where a whole gamut of entertainment, activities, amusements, and accommodations is available.

In Charlottetown, the Confederation Centre of the Arts houses two theatres, an art museum, restaurant, provincial library, and public archives. The Centre is the home of the Charlottetown Festival, offering 3 major stage productions, including Canada's most successful musical, *Anne of Green Gables*, as well as children's theatre and a cabaret.

Summerside hosts a July Lobster Carnival Week, harness racing, the Eptek National Exhibition Centre and the P.E.I. Sports Hall of Fame, as well as many special events throughout the year. There are excellent shopping, restaurant, and accommodation facilities in Summerside.

Accommodations on Prince Edward Island range from camping to luxury hotels. Self-contained cottages are available and bed and breakfast establishments are popular and modestly priced. Farm vacation homes are private farm residences where visitors are treated as one of the family. Meals are home-made, with fresh farm produce. If you feel energetic, you can even help with the farm chores! Beside the ocean or inland (no place is more than 16 kilometres — 10 miles — from the sea) there is accommodation to suit most tastes and pocketbooks. Some campsites offer solitude among the evergreens, while others provide entertainment, shopping, restaurant, swimming, horseback riding, and other recreation facilities. There are also several Island resorts with numerous amenities, including baby-sitting services, and golf courses.

Golfers can tee off at the Island's seven 18-hole and three 9-hole courses. Several are of championship calibre. Most courses offer pro-shop, rentals and clubhouse, and some have swimming pool, tennis courts, game areas and restaurants.

After a day of fun, sun and exercise, Island nightlife offers a relaxing change of pace with intimate candlelight dinners, or upbeat music and dancing in hotels, night clubs, lounges and



Lobster Suppers — Lobster suppers are fast becoming a tradition on Prince Edward Island. Served in church and community halls, fresh lobster in the shell is complemented by a home-made salad, breads, rolls, pies and cakes. You can sample seconds of everything except lobster. (P.E.I. Tourism Photo)

discos. Many bars feature musical entertainment and some encourage sing-alongs.

Only 960 kms (598 miles) from Boston and 1728 kms (1,080 miles) from Toronto, the Island is serviced by Eastern Provincial Airways and Air Canada, with connections to major North American Centres. Year-round car ferries cross the Northumberland Strait from Cape Tormentine, New Brunswick, and there is a 9-month car ferry service from Caribou, Nova Scotia. Crossing times are about an hour.

If you are adventurous or curious, if you travel alone, or with a family, this unique vacation paradise will capture your heart. However, a word of caution: you may never wish to leave. Discovering and rediscovering "Minegoo" — the most beautiful place on earth — may become a habit!

For more information, write Tourism Services, P.O. Box 940E, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, C1A 7N8, Canada.

NEWFOUNDLAND

The Long Coronation Issue – 1937 – A Problem PART 2



Figure 4

PERKINS BACON DESIGNS THE DIES

The first die to be designed was the one containing the vignette for the effigy of the King. The vignettes from three progress proofs in blue are shown in Figure 4. The basic difference between them is the amount and degree of shading around the head. The final completed die, known as Die #1214; is the lowest number Die in the Long Coronation series. (Figure 5) Cross marks on the die from which the right hand vignette in Figure 4 is taken are above and below rather than from side to side. These cross marks are indicators provided to the siderographer so that he may start his roller in the proper place on the Die or Plate.

An interesting recent development indicates that there were seven proofs in the group retained by the engraver. Lot 218 in the Phillips Auction held on 21 April 1983, states that each is dated in pencil. The photos in the catalogue show a late date of 23/4/37 on a Black proof with Die number and cross marks, and one early Blue proof dated 8/2/37 with the pencil notation "first proof pulled from original Die for touching up". There was evidently difficulty with this Die from the beginning. With this Die completed the base Dies could now be enhanced. The table gives the die numbers for the entire completed set.

It is obvious that the die numbers for the 1, 7 and 14 cent values could be any one of the three missing numbers. Numbers were usually

allotted in the order in which the Dies were completed and approved. Date marks on progress proofs of the 1 cent indicate work on them was done in early February 1937, while dates on the 3 cent show late March. The Three cent therefore was near the end of the line. If the King's Head vignette was not completed until April it would



Figure 5

DIE NUMBERS		
VALUE	DIE #	DESIGN
Blank	1214	New King's Head Vignette
1¢	None	New Codfish Motif
7¢	None	Caribou from old 5¢ value
14¢	None	Newfoundland Dog from old 14¢ value
10¢	1218	Salmon from old 10¢ value
20¢	1219	Cape Race from old 20¢ value
3¢	1220	Map of Newfoundland, new design
8¢	1221	Corner Brook from old 8¢ value
15¢	1222	Seal from old 15¢ value
25¢	1223	Sealing Fleet from old 25¢ value
48¢	1224	Fishing flotilla from old 30¢ value
24¢	1225	Bell Island from old 24¢ value



Figure 6

have been difficult to meet a date of 12 May 1937.

The engraver started off with a soft iron die block, 10.8 by 7.0 cm in size. The first progress proof contained only the left vertical border with the inscription *POSTAGE* and 3, the outline *Map of Newfoundland* (with certain towns), a portion of *Labrador* and the *Compass Rose* above the map. It is important to note the construction lines for the top and bottom of the frame which extend way beyond the design area. (Figure 6) The next improvement was the addition of the *King's Vignette* from a roller made from Die 1412. This appears clear and not too sharp. (Figure 7) Thereafter the design was completed (border and shading). In the proof dated 25.3.37 the entire design is dark and the *Compass Rose* quite heavy. Note also the vertical construction line through the center of the *King's Vignette*. (Figure 8) After this was finished the entire design was progressively lightened, probably by burnishing. (Figure 8A) The marker crosses at left and right were then added, and the Die number 1220 (in reverse) at top left was punched in. On the Black impression the construction lines are still visible (Figure 9) It should be noted that an unnumbered die exists, upon which are engraved the three types of *NEWFOUNDLAND* used on the various stamps. (Figure 10)



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 8A

Now it was time for the Plate. One was prepared with 100 replicas of the die impressed in it by rocking the roller into the soft iron. Subsequently it was hardened to take the wear of printing. It would seem, however, that this process was not done too well as the Plate would wear with use.

A number of stamps were run off, how many



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11

we shall see later, and were perforated 14 Comb (Figure 11) and 14 Line (Figure 12) The Comb perforated varieties appear to be less fuzzy and therefore are presumed to have been printed first. The usage of this stamp was defined as being 'Cheques', which would not seem to call for a very big printing. Remember that 1,250,000

to 2,000,000 each of the 2 to 5 cent Coronation stamps had been ordered; it is assumed that probably only 1,000,000 stamps, or 10,000 pulls, of the 3 cent Plate were needed to satisfy the order.

(To be continued in the next issue)



Figure 12

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CANADIAN
POSTAL GUIDE:

ILLUSTRATED

by C. R. McGuire
BNAPS LIFE MEMBER

17. FOREIGN PRINTED MATTER TO AUSTRALIA VIA CANADA



Since ships sailed for Australia from San Francisco and Vancouver on different days, it may be assumed the sender was aware there would be a ship departing Vancouver before the next vessel was scheduled to leave San Francisco. The Postal Guide stated that ships for Australia (with the exception of Western Australia), New Zealand and Fiji sailed once every four weeks via Vancouver (Canadian Pacific Steamship Company) or via San Francisco



(American Pacific Steamship Lines). Back stamps are shown.

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GRAND AWARD

Lewis M. Ludlow — The Pence Issues of Canada

RESERVE GRAND AWARD

Henry Lubke — 4 Ring Cancels of Early Canada

ED and MICKEY RICHARDSON AWARD

Harry W. Lussey — The 5¢ Registration Stamp, Plate 2

(The exhibit best representing one or more of the following:
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sponsored by the Texas Prairie Beavers Regional Group)

MEDALS

- GOLD** — J.C. Arnell, W.E. Lea, Henry Lubke, Lewis Ludlow (2), Rosemary Nickle, Sam Nickle
- VERMEIL** — Norman Boyd, Alfred P. Cook, Leo LaFrance, Harry Lussey (2), D.A. Selby, Joseph Shelton, Clarence Stillions
- SILVER** — Calvin Cole, Horace Harrison, Maurice Hewitt, William Robinson
- SILVER-BRONZE** — W.L. Bradley, Earl Covert, Victor Dick, E.M. Drury, Douglas Irwin, Peter Fournier, Haughton Sanguinetti, E.R. Toop
- BRONZE** — Margaret Fortin, Wilmer Rockett, E.G. Surette, Jeffrey Switt, Edward Whiting

THE ORDER OF THE BEAVER

ROBERT V.C. CARR

SAM NICKLE

CITATION

(Read by Jim Lehr)

All the major societies have Honor groups made up of those members who have shown exceptional dedication and ability. In many groups these people are called Fellows, but in BNAPS they are members of The Order of the Beaver. Anyone so elected must have accomplished much in areas of leadership, philatelic knowledge, exhibition, publication and, above all, dedication to the support of the British North America Philatelic Society.

Today we are happy to induct two new members, one from the West and one from the East.

These two men have much in common. Both are long time members and Past Presidents. Both are knowledgeable in many areas of BNA philately, have exhibited and won high awards at BNAPEX as well as in national and international shows, and are always willing to help anyone asking for information in their area of expertise. Both rarely miss any of our annual conventions.

It is my pleasure to welcome Sam Nickle and Bob Carr as members of the Order of the Beaver.



Grand Award winner Lew Ludlow receives his medal from Judge Bill Pawluk



The Judges (Bill Pawluk, Chuck Firby, Gar Lohman and Bob Pratt)



. . . Meet their Jury — exhibitors at the critique

THE VINCENT G. GREENE AWARD

ROBERT H. PRATT

The Vincent G. Greene award is given annually for the best article, or series of articles, to appear originally in *BNA TOPICS* during the previous year. The winner is chosen by a vote of the Board of Governors and the Executive.

The winner of the Vincent G. Greene Award for 1985 is Robert H. Pratt for his series *Newfoundland Postal Stationery and Other Stamped Paper*.

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

HARRY F. DINGENTHAL

Harry F. Dingenthal of Garland, Texas has, for the first time, been named as the winner of the President's Award for proposing the most new members accepted into the Society in the

previous calendar year. The President is especially pleased to present this award to Harry as his hard work furthers the Society's effort to increase membership in the United States.

SPECIAL DRAW WINNERS

Grace Ure of Troy, MI was the winner of the presentation edition of 'Between Friends — Entre Amis', the beautiful picture album which was the gift of the people of Canada to the people of the United States on the occasion of the American Bi-Centennial in 1976. Douglas Murray of Charlottetown was the winner of the second prize, a regular edition of the same book. The lucky tickets were drawn by George Arfken.

BNAPEX TENNIS TOURNAMENT

For the first time since the annual BNAPEX Tennis Tournament started five years ago, *TOPICS*' reporter remembered to determine the names of winners. Garvin Lohman took the singles title. Betty Dicketts and Diane Stillions won the doubles event, beating out a strong challenge from C.A. Stillions and Gar Lohman. Participants promised that next year they would give *TOPICS* the opportunity to get a photo by playing in daylight at an accessible site!



Earle Covert, Allan Steinhart and Ed Whiting open the Annual General Meeting



Harry Dingenthal, winner of the President's Award



Bob Pratt receives his V.G. Greene Award



New Beavers Bob Carr (L) and Sam Nickle (R) with OTB Vice-Chairman Jim Lehr



Paul Burega, Nick Sheklian, Gary Lyon, Jack Wallace and Bob Lee receive the financial word from the incoming executive



*Dearborn Mayor Michael Guido presents
Chuck Firby with a proclamation
welcoming BNAPEX to the city*



Ed Whiting does the honors at show opening



*Lynn Simrak, Joanne Guile and Jan Lohman discuss how to get one of
the Ford Museum's Famous Cars for their own use*



The Surrettes (standing) sign up for Charlottetown on the advice of the Lehrs and Bob Carr

A WORD FROM THE CIRCULATION MANAGER

by Paul Burega

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LITERATURE REVIEWS

BNA Philately in Print

THE LARGE QUEEN STAMPS OF CANADA AND THEIR USE 1868-1872; H.E. & H.W. Duckworth; The Vincent G. Greene Foundation, Toronto, 1986. 488pp, \$125CDN.

The Dominion of Canada began its life as a political entity by forcing the merger of two corporations competing for the printing of its security paper. The means used to solve the problems of postage stamp production in the critical formative years are set forth in the first three chapters, comprising 128 well illustrated pages, which include the new postal arrangements, plates, papers, and perforations.

Chapters IV through VI cover the use of the stamps — domestic, within the Western hemisphere, and to the United Kingdom and other overseas destinations. These 297 pages are replete with informative charts, maps, tables, and illustrations.

In addition to the six chapters, appendices A through H hold 47 pages of vital source material from which the reader or student may draw his own conclusions. There is a marvelous innovation in Appendix H, which gives in chronological sequence all the mail sailings to the U.K. from Boston, Halifax, New York, Portland, and Quebec for the years 1868-1872. Students of U.S. Philatelic Classics take note.

Not only are the chapters extensively footnoted, so too are the appendices. In addition, there is an eight and one-half page index, ranging from Allan Line (Canadian Packets) with seven sub-titles, to Yarmouth Steam Navigation Company.

All the requisite "Aids to Users" are present. The book is full of acknowledgements, credits, and references. Source material is used so extensively that no bibliography is required. The presentation is simply the best.

This work is a superb study of a fascinating issue of stamps by a newly formed printing company for a newly formed political entity. Regrettably, because the size of the stamps was reduced over time, philatelists have tried to study this First Dominion Issue in two parts, Large (size) Queens and Small (size) Queens when, in reality, they should be studied as one issue.

Only the 15c value has been studied over its entire period of printing and use from 1868 through 1900, in a work entitled *Canada, the Fifteen Cents of 1868*, by R. Gerald Firth, privately printed in 1963.

Until someone comes along and undertakes a study of all the postal stationery and stamps, both postage and revenue, printed by the British American Bank Note Company from its formation in 1866 until it finally lost the contract in 1897, the Duckworth study will be the standout for philatelic knowledge in the early days of the Dominion. It may never be surpassed as a standard for outstanding scholarship in any philatelic field. HWH

THE CANADIAN PRECANCELLED POSTAL STATIONERY ENVELOPES USED DURING THE REIGNS OF K.G. V AND K.G. VI; George E.L. Manley; BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, c/o Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, MB, Canada R0E 1L0; 1986. Photocopy, 24pp, \$3.00CDN.

This publication, an addendum to George Manley's *Canadian Precancelled Postal Stationery Handbook*, supplies the answers to this reviewer's major complaint about the original work. A comprehensive list, it identifies not only the different envelopes but also, where known, their users. The many illustrations are of great assistance to the reader. Some, notably the very colorful Ryrie-Birks envelopes, also serve to demonstrate why Postal Stationery has such a fascination for so many collectors. It is a most welcome addition to the literature and should almost guarantee an eventual second edition of the handbook. MS

THE CANADIAN POSTAGE DUE STAMPS; Andrew Chung & Hans Reiche; The Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1985. Soft cover, 68pp, \$9.95CDN.

The last half of this book, which contains photos of Postage Due items, tables covering treatment and rating of mail requiring postage due charges, and lists of postal rates in effect from before the turn of the century, has produced

much favourable comment. Even though the accuracy of some of it is uncertain — the practice of holding postcards at Branch Dead Letter Offices until missing postage was forwarded is not mentioned in the appropriate section, for instance — a lot of important information is gathered together in one location; beginners trying to mount and organize a collection will benefit particularly.

It is unfortunate, then, that as a whole this is a perfect example of how not to produce a philatelic book. The major failing is that virtually all of the information is presented without any documentation of the sources from which it was gathered.

Much of the information on the stamps themselves can be garnered from reading any BNA stamp catalogue. In areas where this is not the case, on the other hand, such as order numbers of the first issue and imperforates of the second issue, it seems that important information, known to specialists, has not been included. This brings into question whether or not the work was carefully planned, or just rushed to print to meet a perceived need/market.

The second complaint concerns poor production quality — uneven gaps between parts of the same section, new sections beginning at the very bottom of the page, half pages (and larger) completely blank, apparent lack of proof-reading ('greatful', for Pete's sake!) — all make this look like a very amateurish effort.

Just because a book is presented for publishing doesn't mean that it has to be printed. This reviewer does not like slamming the efforts of other people, but there are standards of publishing and scholarship which the buying public has a right to expect will be adhered to, especially when they are asked to pay \$10 for a thin paperback. MS

GENERAL INTEREST

JENNY! The Exciting Story of the World's Best-Known Stamp Error; George Amick; Amos Press, Inc., P.O. Box 29, Sidney, OH, USA 45365; 1986. 250pp, soft cover — \$9.95US, hard cover — \$20US, postpaid.

Once again the publishers of *Linns Stamp News* bring us some light philatelic reading. This time it is the story of the discovery of and almost 70 years of activity surrounding the inverted center on the first US airmail stamp, the 24c value which showed the Curtiss JN-4H airplane, the JENNY of the title.

The story is actually a saga. There is the man who found the only sheet to reach the public, who never looked back after he sold it and credited the sale with saving his daughter from being permanently crippled several years later. There is the Museum which did not care enough to try to find a decent photograph of a copy which had been stolen from its display cases. There is even a little old lady who may have given away one copy unknowingly, tucked away between the pages of a book — for safekeeping — by her late husband.

In an interesting bit of detective work, through articles in magazines and papers, auction catalogues and other publications, the author has even tried to track down all 100 copies of the error and presents an appendix giving all the information.

JENNY! will never win the Pulitzer Prize, nor will it keep you up all night racing to the back cover, but anyone who has ever made — or hoped to make — a philatelic find will enjoy reading this book.

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"GROW WITH THE ROYAL"

The Study Group CENTERLINE

by Frank Waite

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MILITARY MAIL: Ken Ellison, R.R. #1, Oyama, BC V0H 1W0

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SMALL QUEENS: Bill Burden, P.O. Box 152, Truro, NS B2N 5C1

SQUARED CIRCLES: Gary D. Arnold, 5509 East St. Joe Hwy., Grand Ledge, MI 48837

1972-78 DEFINITIVES & LANDSCAPES: D.J. Moore, Box 29, Aylesford, NS B0P 1C0

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL: Dr. J. Arnell, Box HM 1263, Hamilton, Bermuda

ON THE FRINGES

The RPO newsletter brought sad news, Don Makinen died in October. Don, as our Librarian, was a tremendous asset to BNAPS. A friend of the study groups, he provided many groups with an index of all literature in the library that pertained to their specialties. This news reminded me how little some of us appreciate the efforts of our officers, our committees, our judges, our convention staffs, our study group leaders, our TOPICS staff and all the others who make BNAPS the fine society that we all enjoy. Think about it, and give thanks that we have these dedicated people. We may not always agree with them, but without them we would be nothing.

The **Newfie** newsletter reports that there were 14 attendees at their Dearborn study group meeting. This is pretty good for a relatively new study group. They already have a program for the meeting at Charlottetown. John Walsh has promised a slide program. The bulk of the newsletter is the conclusion of the listing of dates of operation of the 20th century post offices of Newfoundland.

From the newsletters (as well as the lack

of them) it is possible to estimate the viability of a study group. The **Perfin** group has as much vitality as any group in BNAPS. From the description in the *Perforator*, they had a most fruitful meeting at Dearborn. The response of the membership to a questionnaire on collecting interests and willingness to participate in research was excellent. (To stray a bit, I have found that the design of a questionnaire has a lot to do with the response thereto.) For the convenience of members who collect Revenue stamp perfins, a cross reference between the Sissons and van-Dam catalogs was included. As part of a continuing series in the newsletters, the stamp issues that carried N9 and N11 (New York Life Insurance Co.) perfins were listed. Mark Fennell narrates an interesting story of a visit to a fellow perfin collector while he was on a trip to England. The newsletter concludes with a sample of a unique check list for Canadian and Newfoundland perfins designed by Michael Behm.

The big news of the **Postal Stationery** group is that Earle Covert and Bill Walton have purchased the rights to Jim Webb's *Canada and*

Newfoundland Postal Stationery Catalogue. The new owners solicit news of unlisted items for consideration and possible inclusion. Bill Walton's report at Dearborn on the status of the ERP project is included in the newsletter. He has also contributed an interesting article on the issuance of Newfoundland P5. Lemire illustrates a specimen of a never issued Canadian airmail envelope, and four partial impressions of the same design, sent in by Horace Harrison.

Updates of ERPs have been provided by John Aitken, Colin Campbell, Pierre Gauthier, Robert Lemire, Bruce McCallum and Bill Walton.

The **Railroaders** as usual have a packed newsletter. Lew Ludlow was invited to bring his Gold medal RPO exhibit and discuss it at the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain meeting in Scotland. While there, he was honored by being made a fellow of C.P.S. of G.B. A great and justly deserved honor-congratulations, Lew. David Harding, Maggie Toms and Dave Mayerovich report RPO strikes on Map, Airmail and Special Delivery stamps. Earle Covert and Brian Stalker illustrate covers with cachets commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Last Spike at Craigellachie (Canadian Pacific Railway) in 1935. Ross Gray now has a run count of 1325 — nearly all on cover. Two illustrations, one of RR43, the other of RR44 turn me green with envy. These are both End of Track cancellations from the construction period of the CPR. An outline of the construction and extension of the Newfoundland Railway, as presented at Dearborn by Palmer Moffat, is reproduced. Jerry Carr sent in a report of an excursion of the 'Bluewater Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society'. They leased a coal burning steam locomotive of the Norfolk and Western R.R.

The **Revenue** group has submitted two newsletters. They had a mini-meeting at VAPEX (Virginia Beach) late in November, and plan another next June at Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. It sounds like fun to be a Revenuer. Russell White has authored an article, *Wet and Dry Printings: Perhaps We've Mislabelled Them*. The article concerns his investigation of the Supreme Court Law Stamps. His research has indicated that horizontal mesh and vertical mesh might be more suitable designations. This is a well written story of well organized research. An unlisted revenue, a Manitoba Search Fee stamp, is illustrated. The Revenue newsletters make a point of mentioning auctions that feature or have a

number of revenue lots. A feature article, *Some Notes on the Third Bill Issue*, was written by Kirk Liggett. Strictly data on the issue, it seems quite authoritative. He also provides a check sheet for the stamps. I like this type of article.

The **Squared Circle** people had a good meeting at Dearborn. Tony Shaman presented a slide show on his Squared Circle strikes on the 3c Jubilee. Bill Robinson contributed a photocopy of a cover with a beautiful new late strike of Morden, Manitoba. New findings (indicia, early dates, late dates, etc.) have been submitted by Tom Almond, Whit Bradley, Jerry Carr, Jim Felton and Jeff Switt. A membership list is included with this issue. The feature article *Random Comments — Hamilton Squared Circle*, by Lew Ludlow, discusses several points where Lew feels the handbook is in error. As would be expected this article is well written. Knowing Lew's almost maniacal penchant for accuracy, I would believe the handbook is in error.

Jack Arnell's book, *Steam and North Atlantic Mails*, was the chief topic of their Dearborn meeting and of the newsletter of the **TransAtlantic** group. Allan Steinhart, Chairman of the Handbook Committee, has supported the publication of the book, by Unitrade Associates, subject to the same stipulations as our other handbooks they have published. The handbook is expected to be a "comprehensive reference document covering all aspects of TransAtlantic Mail." Dr. Arnell is asking study group members to vet each area the book will cover. This sounds like a publication of which both Dr. Arnell and BNAPS will be proud.

Up here, surrounded by snow, in the philatelic vacuum that is Newberry, I have a lot of time to think. My thought processes may be awry, but there are two points I should like to have considered; uniformity and perforation measurement.

Uniformity in terms used throughout BNAPS! My pet example is Earliest Date and Latest Date. Nearly each study group uses a different term. I propose for instance E.R.U. (earliest reported usage) and LRU (latest reported usage). Possibly even better would be earliest or latest confirmed usage (ECU and LCU). I don't believe any study group uses either of these terms, so no toes need be trod on. I propose that a committee of three or five group chairmen, headed by John Burnett, investigate the possibility of establishing uniformity of terms throughout BNAPS.

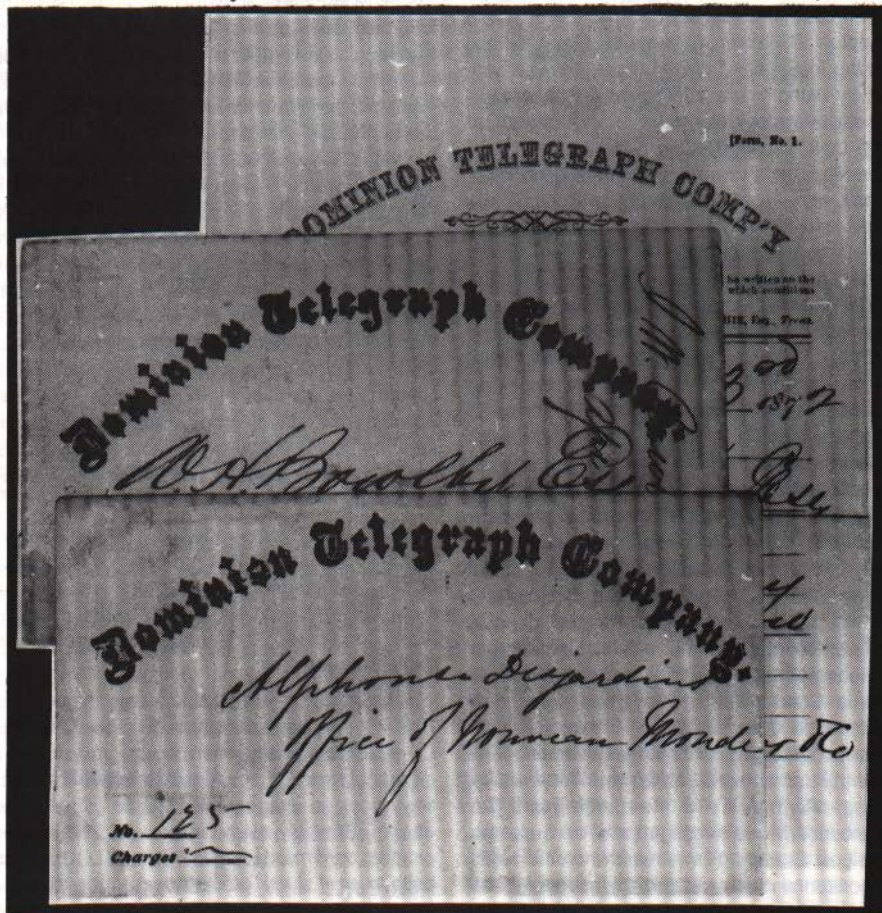
The devil must have laughed when perforations were invented. Different plastic gauges are not uniform with each other nor, over a period of time, with those even of the same make. I have a collection, and I find that they vary as much as one centimeter in 20. Yet perforations are measured to the tenth, and are sometimes extrapolated further. Paper — wet, dry, horizontal

mesh, vertical mesh, etc. — will not restrain its original perforation measurements over a period of time. I know not the answer, but everytime I read that the perforation is 11.9, 11.6 or 11.75 I wonder — what gauge, how old is it and was the measurement confirmed by other gauges.

Enough, it's late, and I have probably stirred up enough controversy for one column.

A STUDY OF THE TELEGRAPH COVERS OF CANADA

by Wilmer C. Rockett, OTB and Leo J. LaFrance, OTB



Type IV of the Dominion Telegraph Company's envelopes is similar in layout to Types I-III, but the typeface is a heavy fancy scroll style. Laid paper was used for these. April 22, 1872 is

the date on the cover shown. Type V is like Type IV, except that wove paper was used. This one is thought to have been used circa 1873.

MAJOR COLLECTIONS AUCTIONED

MARESCH, HARMER NOTE HIGH PRICES FOR QUALITY MATERIAL SECOND COHEN SALE APRIL 26

Three major collections were placed at auction in the late fall of 1986. Information in the following article comes from press releases prepared by the auction houses involved. Amounts in brackets are catalogue or estimated values; two prices separated by a (/) indicate catalogue/estimate. Scott catalogue values are in \$US. Unless otherwise stated, dollar amounts are in Canadian funds. At the time of the sales, the British Pound was valued at approximately \$2.00CDN/\$1.40US.

SMITH COLLECTION BRINGS RECORD PRICES AT MARESCH SALE

The award winning Julian C. Smith mint collection of Canada was sold by R. Maresch & Son of Toronto on October 23. The prices realized show that the Canadian stamp market has survived the stamp depression very well. Quality stamps were offered in this sale. Just over 300 lots brought almost \$500,000.00, averaging out at 150% of catalogue.

23 lots of PENCE stamps came under the hammer. Lot 1, the 3d on laid paper, sold for \$9,625, just under Canada Specialized (\$10,000). Lot 2, the 6d on laid paper, sold for \$19,250, more than twice Scott (\$6,000) and almost double C.S. (\$10,000). Both stamps had insignificant faults and were without gum. (All prices quoted include the 10% buyers premium.) The next lot was Canada's 12d black with full original gum. It opened at \$53,000 and quickly sold for \$68,750.

Next came two Half-Penny stamps. The Rose shade with original gum brought \$935 and a Lilac Rose in n.h. condition fetched \$1,325 (\$500). The same stamp on Vertically Ribbed paper realized \$11,825, over three times catalogue, even though it had no gum. The Three Pence Beavers were offered as six single lots. One without gum (Scott-\$950) realized \$880; one copy with o.g. went for \$1,200 and another for \$2,850. The unused Six Pence (#5 - \$5000), lot 13, opened at \$6,250 and brought \$10,725. The rare greenish gray Six Pence, ex Lilly (with slight marginal thin) opened at \$900 and sold for \$5,200, i.e. full catalogue. The Six Pence on

Thick soft Paper, ex Ferrary and Burrus, (\$7000) opened at \$9500 and realized \$22,000. All Six Pence stamps were without gum. The Ten Pence on thin paper (\$3250) fetched \$5,500, and on thick paper (\$3,750) realized \$9,350.

The Perforated Pence section saw the Half Penny with o.g. reach \$1,650, the red Three Pence without gum bring \$1,850 and the Six Pence (Scott No. 13 - \$4,500) sell for \$4,950 despite a crease. The rare Gray Violet shade (Scott No. 13a) found a new owner at \$8,525.

The 1859 Cents Issues brought some amazing prices. The One Cent stamps (\$190) all sold above catalogue, from \$230 to \$400. A jumbo 5 cent Beaver, no gum (\$175) went at \$465. A lovely 10 cent Prince Consort, sold for \$14,000. The many shades of the 10 cent, fifteen different in all (\$425), sold from a low of \$150, through \$715 and \$1475, to an astonishing \$3,050 for a copy with the 'string of pearls' variety. The real surprises were the 12½ Cent offered in 3 major shades (\$275), fetching \$1,200, \$1,150 and \$1,375 for a Blue Green shade. The Seventeen Cent (No. 19-\$425) went for \$680, \$880 and \$1,375 for the Slate Blue copy.

The Large Queen section, the best to come on the market since the sale of the Firth collection, showed how badly undercatalogued these stamps really are. An ordinary Half cent, centered and n.h. (\$45) brought \$220. The One cent brown, offered as lots 69 to 75 (\$325), sold for \$350 to \$900. A watermarked copy (\$1,200) brought \$1,750 and the two copies on Laid Paper reached \$9,000 and \$6,600 respectively (\$7,500). The One cent yellow orange, (\$625) in its three shades, sold for \$880, \$1,425 and \$1,650 for \$440 to \$1,500 for a watermarked copy. The 3 cent Large Queen, offered in 7 lots (\$600) brought \$550 to \$2,500 for a copy on white paper. A watermarked copy fetched \$6,325 (\$1,500) and (\$600) sold for \$825, a never hinged copy for \$4,675, and a trifle faulty perf 12 without gum for \$2,400. The imperforate pair with faults (not catalogued), estimated at \$2,500, opened at \$1,600 and after spirited bidding realized \$6,325. The 6 cent (\$600) sold for \$660 and \$1,050; the rare black brown shade n.h. for

\$5,000. The 12½ cent (\$300) brought \$715, to \$1,925 for a watermarked copy (\$1,000).

The Fifteen cent realizations raised a few eyebrows. The imperforate pair (\$1,000) brought \$1,050, the ordinary thin paper (Scott No. 29e — \$450) sold for \$550; the very thin paper of the first printing (not catalogued) opened at \$825 and finally sold for \$2,025. A watermarked copy (\$3,000) opened at \$1,300 and found a buyer at \$5,775. A n.h. copy in the greenish gray shade, purchased by the owner in 1976 for \$500 (an unbelievable record price at the time), opened at \$400 and sold for \$4,950 in a suddenly hushed auction room. A deep blue shade, also unlisted by Scott and offered in violet shade on thick paper (\$2,000) opened at \$2,100 and realized \$4,400. The script watermark, an exceedingly rare stamp mint, with perhaps only 4 or 5 copies recorded, sold reasonably for \$6,325 (\$4,750). The last lot of the 15 cent was the perf 11½ by 12, a highly undervalued stamp in mint condition, which opened at \$600 and sold for \$2,400.

The Small Queens, all in mint singles or imperforate pairs, were offered in over 75 lots. Realizations here make very interesting reading. Lot 119, the One cent yellow common Ottawa printing n.h., (\$20) opened at \$80 and sold for \$150. The Orange (Montreal printing) (\$70), opened at \$95 and went for \$215. The same stamp in the Red Orange shade brought \$385, and the Deep Orange \$465. The perf 11½ by 12 of this stamp (\$110) opened at \$60 and sold for \$350; a 2 cent in the same perf (\$150) opened at \$130 and sold for \$500. A copy of the Three cent in the Rose shade (\$300) brought \$400. A Copper Red copy (Scott 37b — \$650) went for \$1,375. The rare perf 12½ of this stamp (Scott 37d — \$3,500) sold for \$6,050 despite being off-centre and without gum. Two perf 11½ by 12 copies in different shades (\$130) made \$355 and \$275. A 5 cent pale slate green (Montreal printing) (Scott 38 — \$225) sold for \$525 and a jumbo copy in gray (Scott 42 — \$37.50) fetched \$355. A Six cent brown (Montreal printing) without gum (Scott 39 — \$175) opened at \$105 and found a new home at \$550. A perf 11½ by 12 of the same stamp with gum (Scott 39b — \$300) after opening at \$180 fetched \$850. An Ottawa printing of this stamp (Scott 43 — \$40) offered in 3 shades, made \$120, \$350 and \$500.

The Ten cent, with its many lovely shades, resulted in a variety of realizations. The lilac rose Montreal printing (Scott \$300) sold for \$460 and \$525. A pale milky rose lilac (Scott 40c — \$600)

reached \$1,155 and a dull rose Ottawa printing (Scott 45a — \$150) brought \$525.

HARMERS OF LONDON AUCTIONS PRATT NEWFOUNDLAND PENCE

Tuesday, 21 October 1986 saw the disposal of the Col. Robert H. Pratt Collection of Newfoundland Pence issues by Harmers of London for £219,034, including buyers premium.

Col. Pratt commenced collecting Newfoundland issues back in 1959, the span of more than a quarter of a century permitting him the opportunity of buying from many of the great collections that came onto the market.

Col. Pratt had in his collection many wonderful quality pieces, as well as great rarities, generally in the form of multiples or entires, where quality did not exist. The auction confirmed once again that there is a wide market for quality items and a more limited market for items that come only in poor condition.

An example of each was, on the one hand, the only recorded used pair of the 4d scarlet vermilion, close at top and bottom, a little damaged at top right, cataloguing £6,500 as two singles. Started by the acutioneer at an assumed modest level of £750, there was no action whatsoever. On the other hand a part o.g. copy of the 1/- scarlet vermilion (£11,000) and said to be "probably the finest known" brought £9,350. All prices include 10% buyers premium.) There are a number of unused copies extant.

The sale opened with a Perkins Bacon trial sheet of three panes of 6 of New South Wales blank dies in colours appropriate to the Newfoundland colours of brown purple, green and scarlet vermilion. It realized £1,705.

Die Proofs in black on India paper die sunk on card sold from £187 to £632 (unique 4d value); plate proofs ranged widely in price, a proof or colour trial of the 1d in orange on Stacey Wise paper reaching £126 (£55); a block of the 2d in black £407 (£330) and a block of the 1/- with ms. notation in margin £440 (£275).

It is generally agreed that Stanley Gibbons catalogue prices show a degree of optimism not accepted by other leading catalogues, including Scott. Details of prices from both catalogues were included in the Pratt catalogue. It was noted that generally the Gibbons' levels in sterling equalled or usually exceeded the dollar prices, often quite seriously. Examples include the 2d scarlet vermilion unused, at £11,000 vs. \$8,000; the 6d scarlet vermilion, at £10,000 vs. \$6,500.

This resulted in excellent prices seeming rather average when compared with Gibbons' thinking.

A 4d, small part o.g., large margins but with a marginal crease at left sold at £2,750 (£6,000/£2,200); a used copy with a horizontal crease made £719 (£3,250/£880). The 6d value unused, close at left brought £3,630 (£10,000/£3,850), a used severed pair of the 8d, £550 (cat. £550, est. £440). Probably the finest 1/-, part o.g., brought £9,350 (£11,000/£8,800) while a used copy with enormous margins but a trace of tear and a faint crease reached £1,595 (£3,750/£1,320).

The 1860 orange-vermilion issue was headlined by the corner block of eight of the 2d in unmounted mint condition, the largest remaining piece of the block of sixteen from the Dale-Lichtenstein collection. This ran from £3,080 to £4,290 (£2,000+/-£3,300). Used pairs of the 6d — there are only four recorded — sold at £385, £264 and £220, all lacking quality to some degree. A most attractive 1/-, unused, sold at £8,250 (£8,800). This catalogued £25,000 by Gibbons but only the equivalent of £10,700 by Scott.

The 1861 issues sold appropriately. A sheet of the 2d deep rose-lake (S.G. 16) needed £1,815 to be owned (£3,000+/-£1,650), while a 2d pale rose-lake shade (S.G. 22) in a lightly hinged block of 8, faint crease, made £363 (£880+/-£440). Sheets of the 5d chocolate-brown (£1,200+) sold at £506 and £825, the latter showing paper-maker's watermark. Similar 6½d sheets reached £363 and £506.

A wonderful array of 63 covers was undoubtedly the most interesting section of the auction. Realisations followed the quality/rarity pattern, the best quality items, although not necessarily particularly rare, exciting the most interest. Some of the prices included:

1857 3d (internal rate) yellowish green, small even margins on envelope July 1860 to Kings Cove — £797 (£385); 1861 3d, large margined on envelope April 1863 to Trinity, two filing folds, one affecting the stamp but "probably the finest looking cover" — £687 (£550); 1857 3d, a pair (double internal rate); mixed margins on entire May 1858 to Trinity — £715 (£385); 1861 5d chocolate brown (double internal rate) on slightly damaged envelope, June 1863 to Harbour Grace — £2,310 (£660); 1861 3d, three large - margined copies on almost complete legal size envelope (probably double registered rate) January 1869 to Carbonear — £6,600 (£3,850).

A unique cover illustrating use of the correct stamp for the 12d currency rate, to Canada — £12,650, (£13,200); 1861 6½d deep rose-lake, margins all round tied by cork type cancel on envelope, June 1865 to Toronto £2,420 (£1,650). 1857 1d brown-purple, 5d brown-purple, both with margins nearly all round on envelope October 1860 to England — £3,960 (£3,850); 1857 2d scarlet-vermilion, pair and single mixed margins, January 1869 to England — £5,775 (£4,400); 1861 6d deep rose-lake, good margins on overwritten envelope April 28 1862 (earliest known date) to England — £3,410 (£2,750).

FIRST COHEN SALE HELD AT DERBY

The first portion of the Stanley Cohen 19th Century Canada stamp collection was sold by Cavendish Auctions of Derby, England on 18 October 1986. Most lots brought well in excess of the estimated prices. The English auction recorded a value of over \$400,000.

The following lots were singled out as being worthy of special mention:

Collection of Toronto Fancy '2' postmarks on Large Queen issue, 21 covers or fronts and 132 single copies, (£2000) £7000; Small collection of Ottawa Fancy '8' postmarks on Large Queen issue, 9 stamps and 1 cover, (£160) £1400.

6d Imperf, Lilac-Grey, large margins, Circular dated postmark and earliest recorded Stitch Watermark, (£1500) £1800; 10 Cents 1859 issue, almost complete collection of 4 Ring Numeral postmarks, 47 stamps, (£1000) £1800.

1865 cover to China with strip of 3 x 10 cts and 5ct beaver, from Kip correspondence, (£2500) £3200.

15 cents Large Queen, date MR.2.68, earliest recorded usage, (£250) £475; 5 cents Large Queen, dated OC.1.1875, First Day of issue, (£100) £260; 1 cent Brown Large Queen, Mint block of 12, (£1500) £3000; 12½cts Blue Large Queen, 4 constant faws used on all 4 printings, 16 stamps, (£250) £550.

1 Cent, Large Queen, Orange, the major re-entry, only known used copy, (£750) £1200; 15 cents Large Queen, Major re-entry used, (£300) £550; 5cts Large Queen, Mint block of 6, (£1500) £1900; Large Queens, Complete collection of 60 2-Ring numeral postmarks, (£500) £1400; Large Queens, Collection of 39 2-Ring numeral postmarks on 1ct Orange values, (£400) £900.

4 Ring 627 pmks on cover and 5 singles, (£175) £500; Collection of New Brunswick Grid numer-

als on 15 single large Queens, (£175) £410;
Large Queen cover with 1ct Brown pair and 3
cents (extra 2cts for Registration fee) dated
Ap.20.1868, (£250) £750.

Combination Large Queen cover with 2cts, 6cts
and 15cts, being 23cts rate to Germany dated
My.24.1869, (£1500) £2900; 3cts Small Queen,
Indian Red, Perf 12½, Earliest cover dated
JA.24.1870, (£500) £1000.

10cts Small Queen cover to England, containing
coin and compulsorily registered on arrival at
Liverpool; (£2000) £3400; Stationery card, 1ct
blue, with 2cts Registered stamp, (£50) £260.

Because of the size of the Cohen collection,
it was decided to sell it in two auctions. The
second sale will be conducted on 26 April 1987
by Jim A. Hennok of Toronto. Information on lo-
cation of the sale and catalogues may be ob-
tained by writing Jim A. Hennok Ltd., 185 Queen
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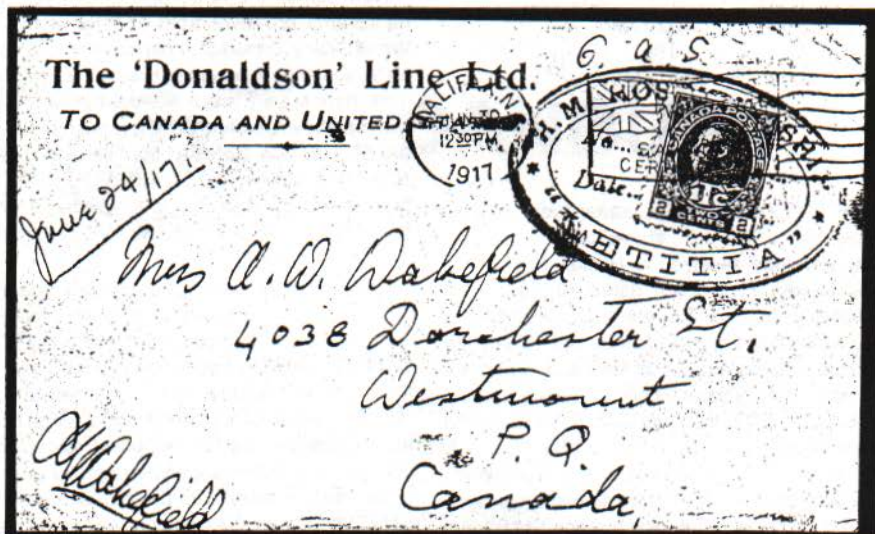
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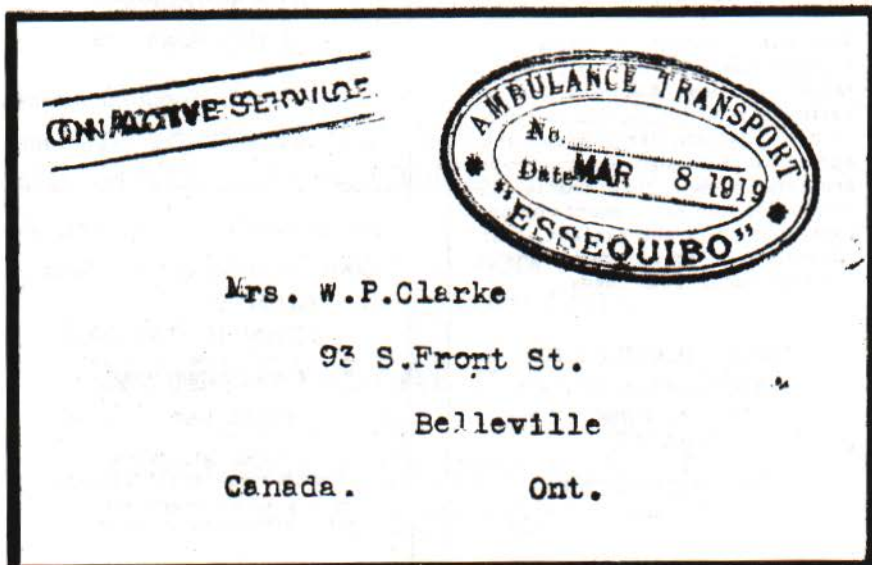
FOLLOW-UP: WWI HOSPITAL SHIPS



The January-February 1986 issue of TOPICS carried a report of a rectangular marking, dated March 1917, from H.M. Hospital Ship *Letitia*. Richardson (TOPICS, July-August 1983) reported one marking known from H.M.H.S. *Araguaya*, but none from any other hospital ship used by Canadian Forces in WWI.

This example, dated June 1917, is from the

same correspondence — probably from a Medical officer as he censored his own correspondence. It carries a different marking, an oval handstamp, in purple. The thick outer oval measures 56 x 37mm. There is a thin oval approximately 1mm inside the thick one, and a second thin oval approximately 5.5mm inside the first. Between the two thin ovals is 'H.M. HOSPITAL





SHIP "/>LETITIA". In the center there are two lines, 'No', above 'Date'. The envelope received a Halifax flag cancel (Richardson Type 21-3) dated 30 June 1917 cancelling the War Tax stamp supplied by the Canadian Post Office. A manuscript notation indicates that the letter enclosed was written on 24 June 1917. The envelope corner card reads THE 'DONALDSON' LINE LTD./To Canada and United States.

A second *Letitia* cover, this one pre-WWI, was also reported. It carries a double circle handstamp cachet, in blue, which reads SHIP MAIL EX BRITISH S.S. "LETITIA"/+. Franked with a British 1d stamp, the envelope received a Quebec, Que. slogan machine cancel on 7 Aug. 1913. The corner card on this cover reads THE

'DONALDSON' LINE/to Canada and United States.

Now comes the news of the discovery of a handstamp on cover from another of the five World War I Canadian hospital ships, actually an 'Ambulance Transport', *H.M.A.T. Essequibo*. This mark is very much like the *Letitia* one described above, except that the outer dimensions are 50 x 30 mm. Between the thin ovals is *AMBULANCE TRANSPORT*"ESSEQUIBO". The two lines in the center read the same. Another handstamp, 'ON ACTIVE SERVICE' between two lines, is at left.

In both oval markings a different type style was used for the name of the ship, the ship designation and the two lines in the center. The similarity between the two markings indicates that each of the ships may have had an oval stamp. Whether or not similar marks will be found from the *Llandovery Castle* (before she was torpedoed), the *Neuralia* or the *Araguaya* remains to be seen. A mark from the *Neuralia* is considered unlikely as she was only in Canadian service in 1919.

Thanks to Bill Robinson, Allan Steinhart and Robert Wyse for these reports — Ed.

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The RPO Cowcatcher

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Since returning from the C.P.S. Convention in Scotland our correspondence has continued apace. We had a lovely letter from Jacques Houser of the Seattle area, enclosing a 1963 letter from Ron Kitchen advising that the William Rennie covers were discovered by Winnie Green, not Fred Jarett; we are trying to develop more details. Allan Steinhart has confirmed that Dr. Sanderson's oval PAID./140, illustrated in the last Cowcatcher was indeed an account number maintained by G.W.R. with the post office for periodic settlement of accounts with the postal authorities. Our new R.P.O. Study Group member, Joe Smith, with his large holding of MA-174/MA-175 MONCTON & QUEBEC / M.C., with and without the external 'W', prompted a re-examination of the previous hammer analysis of these listings; we have now confirmed that at least seven hammers were involved instead of the four originally reported. This work has been written up and will appear in a near-term issue of the R.P.O. Study Group Newsletter. Interested non-members of the study group should get in touch with Bill Robinson for details on joining.



L. M. LUDLOW

UNKNOWN TRACK

Many years ago we listed our own discovery, the illustration W-66E, a Type 17A strike reading L. DER & EST???????/No. ?. While in Kelowna in September, Alex Price requested a closer look at this unique strike; then, in Pitlochry in October, Lionel Gillam had much the same request. The question is, "What are the two termini?" With Train #138, there seems to be no doubt on the second terminal; however, we believe that it should be 'ESTEVAN R.P.O.', rather than 'EST R.P.O.', as in the original listing. The stopper is the first terminal, 'L. DER.', which no one yet has been able to identify. Gillam says this has given him sleepless nights and hopes that our readers can give him some respite with a solution to this poser.

MISTRACK

Looks can be deceiving! At the C.P.S. meeting, Brian Stalker said he had a strange



B. STALKER



L.V. PENCO

one, 'G.W. RAILWAY' on a Newfoundland stamp; since the G.W.R. never operated in Newfoundland, this would have been a rare find. As seen in the photograph, Stalker's point was not without merit; at first glance, the second letter in this strike has the appearance of a 'W'. Factually, it is a 'B' and this is a late use, worn strike of N-26 C.B. RAILWAY. T.P.O./NEWF'D. Looks can be deceiving.

NEW TRACK

Just when we think that reports of new listings are slacking off, we get a spate of submissions to prove such is not true. We have three to report for his column, not counting a couple of others that would not photograph well.

With our five listings of Q-264A through Q-264E, we thought we had the Rouses Point to Montreal sector pretty well covered. Not true! From our new Reporter #252, L.V. Penco of Vancouver, we now have another. Q-264F ROUSES POINT & / MONTREAL, R.P.O., Type 3A, on a block of six 1c yellow Admirals, dated December 13, 1922. There are portions of four strikes on this block from which we can derive the whole cancellation. At first we thought this might be an over-inked Q-264C, double line oval Type 3D; however, the single line oval is assured and Penco's find has an ampersand,

"&", where Q-264C has "AND". A fine new discovery!

The last of our three new listings is a dandy from Don Fraser which should have great appeal to our Map specialists. As illustrated, we have another ticket stamp used as a cancellation on a 2c Map on a William Rennie cover. This has been listed as TS-60Q CANADIAN PACIFIC/RAILWAY/PLUM COULEE MAN., Type 1J. Although the top is faint, it is indistinguishable on the original; the date is clearly May 20, 1899. This is another good illustration of ticket stamp daters being used as cancellation devices.



D. FRASER



P. LERPINIÈRE

It is nice to see that one of our early reporters, Peter Lerpiniere, Reporter #20, is still finding new listings for us. His latest is a beauty. Q-1651 TRAIN No./Mont. & Tor. R.P.O., Train 7, May 22, 1919, Type 5E, the fluted large circle from a rubber hammer. We only recall one other such fluted ring, specifically W-28 C. & V. R.P.O./B.C. The source for Lerpiniere's new dis-

covery is the illustrated bank bag tag, with 1c & 5c Admirals while on reverse there are 10c & 50c Admirals, the total of 66c to cover registration and postage. Our experience is that these bag tags are a great source of interesting railway strikes, particularly clerk cancellations; keep an eye out for them.

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Members are asked to note that two SIGNATURES on an application for membership hastens approval of new applications.

REPORT DATE: 15 DECEMBER 1986

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Objections MUST be filed with the Secretary IMMEDIATELY upon publication.

- R4568 SALMON, Dr. Allan, 17 Lyons Lane, Appleton, Cheshire, England WA4 5JG
C NWT, 2 and 4 Ring Numeral Cancellations
Proposed by: M. Street, 3848; Seconded by: Charles King, 4259
- R4569 BRYCE, John, 3 Swanston Place, Edinburgh, Scotland EH10 7DD
C Street Cancels, RPO's, Toronto Cancels
Proposed by: L.E. Warren, 4072; Seconded by: Wayne Curtis, 2100
- R4570 BELLACK, George L., 11 Mardley Heights, Welwyn, Herts, England AL6 0TX
C Canada - Registration and Transatlantic Postal History
Proposed by: L.E. Warren, 4072; Seconded by: M. Street, 3848
- R4571 PERRY, Michael, 32 High Street, Roade, Northampton, England NN7 2NW
C Newfoundland - RPO's, Postal History. Canada Airmail
Proposed by: M. Street, 3848; Seconded by: B.T. Stalker, 4400
- R4572 McLAREN, James C., 15 Murray Place, Perth, Scotland PH1 1BP
C Canada - General, Flag Cancellations and RPO's
Proposed by: M. Street, 3848; Seconded by: A.S. Mackie, 2944
- R4573 WISEMAN, James P., P.O. Box 115, Borden, ON, Canada L0M 1C0
C Canada - Mint, Used and Revenues. Newfoundland
Proposed by: Secretary
- R4574 SMITH, Michael J., #1206 - 4100 Ponytrail Dr., Mississauga, ON, Canada L4W 2Y1
C Canada Patriotic Postcards, Covers and Stamps
Proposed by: W.H.D. Horne, 4230
- R4575 SLEZAK, Richard J., P.O. Box 2819, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3C 4B4
C Small Queens, Squared Circles and Fancy Cancellations
Proposed by: Secretary
- R4576 REMAKEL, John E., 5349 N. Sawyer Ave., Chicago, IL, USA 60625
C Canada - Revenues, New Issues, Booklets & Official FDC, Newfoundland
Proposed by: Robert Lee, 2470
- R4577 SHUGAR, Norman M., 8818 Croes Drive, Houston, TX, USA 77055
C Canada - Revenues, Officials and Perfins
Proposed by: E.F. Christman, 3036; Seconded by: E.A. Richardson, L169
- R4578 CAMMARATA, Carl J., 10255 Tomkinson Dr., Scotts, MI, USA 49088
C Yukon P.H., West Coast Ship Markings, WW1 N. Russia/Siberia P.H.
Proposed by: Robert Lee, 2470
- R4579 STOWELL, Leslie D., Box 48871, Bentall Post Office, Vancouver, BC, Canada V7X 1A8
C Canada. BC Cancels on cvr pre 1950 esp. with 3 cent Small Queens
Proposed by: Austin Mifsud, 1590; Seconded by: Wm. Robinson, L2982
- R4580 KONING, Steven M., 29 Balsam Ave., Toronto, ON, Canada M4E 3B5
C Perfins, Precancels and Centennial Definitives
Proposed by: Manfred Walther, 3374
- R4581 HIPWELL, John F., 2913 - 9th Avenue, Castlegar, BC, Canada V1N 2Z2
C Postcards & Stationery, Revenues. BC & VI, Newfoundland. Precancels
Proposed by: Wm. Robinson, L2982; Seconded by: Chris McGregor, 4454

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R4547	SMITH, William F., Jr.	R4564	CUKR, Sharon E.
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R4550	HANNAN, J. Douglas	R4567	MEYERHOF, Thomas (Tom) P.
R4554	SHELFOON, Stephen B.		

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Applications previously published and awaiting the concurrence of the Admissions Committee

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R4538	SCHISLER, Clifford H.	R4562	PIERCEY, John
R4540	REVOLINSKI, Paul R.	R4563	SEMSROTT, David O.
R4548	CREIGHTON, Richard W.	R4566	BUTT, John G.
R4551	ROUGERE, John Joe, Major (Ret'd)		

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R1688	MacInnes, Malcolm T.
R4149	HASLER, A.H. "Bert"

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R1599	WIGHTMAN, G. Franklin	R3844	ROBINSON, William J.
R2102	GREGG, Arthur E.	R4077	TOWLE, Charles L.
R2127	PINK, Lester	R4413	ROSS, Leroy L.
R2408	BAKER, Robert M.	R4430	BRISTOW, Charles A.

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R1557	HARRISS, Mrs. Joan E., Box 1925, Sydney, NS, Canada B1P 6W4
R1798	KRAEMER, Fred, 4228 W. King Edward Ave., Vancouver, BC, Canada V6S 1N3
R1951	MOFFATT, Dr. William G., Division Street, R.R. #3, Ballston Lake, NY, USA 12019
R2000	MITCHELL, Wallace B., 682 Belmont St., Waterdown, MA, USA 02172
R2376	BLAIR, Charles D., 162 Franklin Road, Longmeadow, MA, USA 01106-2630
R2409	CLATTERBUCK, Winfield C., P.O. Box 3535, Youngstown, OH, USA 44512
R2453	McNEY, Floyd Gordon, 8019 - 160 St., Edmonton, AB, Canada T5R 2G9
R2834	MARK, Kenneth Y., 150 Fairlawn Ave., Toronto, ON, Canada M5M 1S8

- R2924 BARDWELL, H.F., 1040 Connaught Cres., Sarnia, ON, Canada N7S 1C6
 R3060 ROUSE, Eric G., 9532 Natasha Place, Sidney, BC, Canada V8L 4P9
 R3278 JACOBSON, Charlie, 2721 Olive Hwy., Suite #8, Oroville, CA, USA 95966
 R3454 BETT, Ian R., 44 George Henry Blvd., Willowdale, ON, Canada M2J 1E2
 R3754 DANEMAN, Jeffrey C., 5421 Corkhill Dr., Dayton, OH, USA 45424
 R3886 MACHUM, Harry Wilfred, P.O. Box 996, Lively, ON, Canada P0M 2E0
 R3971 BRUDER, Dr. Eugene M., 1044 Mangrove Ave., Suite A, Chico, CA, USA 95926
 R4010 GORDON, Dr. Zane M., 58 Duncannon Dr., Toronto, ON, Canada M5P 2M2
 R4019 O'REILLY, Kevin N.J., Box 444, Yellowknife, NT, Canada X1A 2N3
 R4063 EADIE (was Gerry), Jo-Anne M., R.R. #3, Komoka, ON, Canada N0L 1R0
 R4108 FROST, Robert J., 814 Sea Ridge Place, Victoria, BC, Canada V8V 2T5
 R4111 WEAR, James M., 620 Jarvis St., Apt. 1403, Toronto, ON, Canada M4Y 2R8
 R4143 WHITCOMBE, Steven P., 629 South Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights, IL, USA 60005-25433
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 R4208 ESCOTT, Dr. Nicholas G., 133 S. Hill St., Thunder Bay, ON, Canada P7B 3T9
 R4222 PORTER, Leslie H., 381 Elm Rd., Toronto, ON, Canada M5M 3V7
 R4294 MAYER, John C., 805 Penthouse Dr. So., Birmingham, AL, USA 35205
 R4309 COVINGTON, Brock R., P.O. Box 160, Glen Echo, MD, USA 20812
 R4388 McLEOD, James D., 4 Rosewood Place, Whitehorse, YT, Canada Y1A 4X3
 R4397 HILL, James R., 2015 Lake Bonavista Dr., S.E., Calgary, AB, Canada T2J 2Z8
 R4404 STONE, Richard E., 23 Southwind Terrace, Oakville, ON, Canada L6L 6A9
 R4466 RIBLER, Ronald I., 8370 Greensboro Dr., Apt. 401, McLean, VA, USA 22102
 R4483 HASLEWOOD, Robert A., 4416 Harvard Avenue, Montreal, PQ, Canada H4A 2X1

MAIL RETURNED – UNDELIVERABLE

Last given address shown – please notify Secretary of any changes known

- R3693 HUTTON, David Greig, 406 Orsi Ave, Bradford, ON, Canada L3Z 1B9
 R4324 PETTITT, John E., 265 Empress Ave., Toronto, ON, Canada M2N 3V2

APPLICATION REFUSED

- R4536 DUFFY, Jack, Box 560292-2860 Delony Ave, Orlando, FL, USA 32856

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Total membership as of last report	1413
New members added in this report	15
Reinstated	1
Deceased	2
Resigned	9
Mail returned	2
Total membership as of this report	1416
Previous application(s) pending	17
New application(s)	14

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LITERATURE

CHECKLIST AVAILABLE. "Canadian Precancelled Postal Stationery Envelopes Used During the Reigns of KGV and KGVII" by George Manley. This is a supplement to Manley's "Canadian Precancelled Stationery Handbook". \$5.00 from BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, Box 549, Pinawa, MB Canada, R0E 1L0.

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